

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /034 W
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R 231626Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9305

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 8131

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, UK, PO

SUBJ: TUC DELEGATION TO PORTUGAL

REF: (A) LONDON 15227, (B) MADRID 8774

1. TUC DELEGATION COMPOSED OF JACK JONES, JOE GORMLEY, GEORGE SMITH AND ALLAN HARGREAVE MADE 24-HOUR VISIT TO LISBON NOV 18-19. ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROGRAM WAS LARGELY HANDLED BY COMMUNIST-DOMINATED LABOR CONFEDERATION, INTERSINDICAL. PUBLICITY SURROUNDING VISIT GAVE IMPRESSION VISIT WAS SOLELY TO INTERSINDICAL. DELEGATION MET INFORMALLY WITH SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) LABOR ADVISOR MADUREIRA AND OTHER PS LABOR LEADERS DURING RECEPTION AT BRITISH EMBASSY, BUT CONTACTS WITH PS OFFICIALS WENT UNMENTIONED IN PRESS.

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2. DELEGATION STATED, IN RESPONSE TO REPORTER'S QUESTION,

THAT SINGLE NATIONAL LABOR CONFEDERATION IS BEST FOR LABOR'S INTERESTS. DID NOT RESPOND TO FOLLOW-ON QUESTION REGARDING WHETHER SINGLE CONFEDERATION SHOULD HAVE BROADER RANGE OF SUPPORT THAN WHAT INTERSINDICAL HAS.

3. PRIME MINISTER MARIO SOARES INDICATED TO AMBASSADOR NOV 22 HIS DISSATISFACTION OVER TUC VISIT.

4. THIS IS BELIEVED TO BE JONE'S THIRD VISIT TO PORTUGAL SINCE THE 1974 REVOLUTION. WHETHER INTENTIONAL OR NOT, RESULTS OF VISIT WERE DECIDEDLY UNHELPFUL TO PS AND DEMOCRATIC "OPEN LETTER" UNION MOVEMENT. BRITISH EMBASSY DOUBTFUL THAT TUC DELEGATION ARRANGED FOR RECIPROCAL INVITATION TO INTERSINDICAL OR FOR FOLLOW-ON ASSISTANCE. NEW BRITISH LABOR ATTACHE ARRIVED LISBON ONLY FOUR DAYS PRIOR TO TUC DELEGATION WHICH MAY HELP TO EXPLAIN WHY BRITISH EMBASSY FOUND ITSELF OUT IN LEFT FIELD REGARDING VISIT.
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